

Davis Pond Advisory Committee Meeting #4
November 18, 2002
St. Charles Parish Courthouse
Draft Minutes

1. DPAC member roll call.

Bill Good	LDNR, Chair, CIAC
Bruce Baird	USACE
David Walther	USFWS
Jeanene Peckham	USEPA
Rachel Sweeney	NMFS
Heather Warner-Finley	LDWF
David Ogé	LDEQ
Marnie Winter	Jefferson Parish Government
Lonny Serpas	Plaquemines Parish Government
Levy Brunet	Shrimp Fisheries, Lower Basin
Randy Gros	Recreational Fisheries
Frank Ellender	Landowner Representative
Kerry St. Pé	BTNEP

Representatives from NRCS, LDHH, St. Charles Parish Government, Lafourche Parish Government, oyster fisheries, and upper-basin shrimp fisheries were not present.
2. **Motion: Accept the agenda.**
Result: All in favor: 13 Opposed: 0 Passed
3. **Motion: Approve minutes from previous meeting, March 20, 2002.**
Result: All in favor: 13 Opposed: 0 Passed
4. Update on ponding area. Jack Fredine, USACE, reported on maintenance work in the ponding area. During flows of 1,000 to 2,000 cfs, water did not drain out of ponding area as rapidly as expected. Elevation surveys have been conducted on the weir and remedial action to improve the release of water is being planned.
5. EIS and EA for Davis Pond. Bruce Baird, USACE. An Environmental Assessment document is needed whenever the scope of operations varies from that approved in the original project Environmental Impact Statement. The purpose of the present draft EA is to seek approval to operate the structure from May through December and for the corrective work on the rock weir (Item 4 above). The draft document should be ready for review in about a month.
6. Establish a schedule for reporting operations and biological data. Chuck Villarrubia, DNR, distributed the Davis Pond Annual Report of monitoring and operations data through 2002. Future reports will be prepared for release early in the calendar year, reporting data through about September of the previous year.

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7. Old business: Motion to request Technical Work Group to evaluate hydrologic model as planning tool (from March 20, 2002 DPAC Annual Meeting). Paul Gremillion, DNR, reported that additional development of the TABS-RMA model of the basin, developed by the Corps and modified through a contract with LSU, would not be pursued. DNR plans to develop in-house capability to run the Corps model until the model under development by Moffitt & Nichol, to support Coast 2050 Feasibility Study planning, is ready. Bill Good requested that the Technical Work Group provide a status report on the model at the next annual meeting of the DPAC.
8. Dr. John Day, LSU, presentation: Proposal for experimental pulses at Davis Pond.
9. Establish operational scheme for next reporting period. A draft motion for 2003 operations was discussed. The plan is identical to the operational scheme approved at the DPAC meeting in May 2001 (the operational plan was not modified or re-adopted at the following DPAC meeting in March 2002) with the addition of experimental flow pulsing during February / March of 2003 and autumn 2003. The amount and duration of the pulses would be determined by the TWG in consultation with LSU. There was sufficient concern regarding the timing of the pulses that the draft motion was rejected and the following motion was considered:

Motion: The Technical Work Group shall work with LSU to devise a specific schedule for 2003 experimental pulses and report their recommendation to a meeting of the DPAC in late-January 2003 to consider 2003 operations.
Result: All in favor: 13 Opposed: 0 Passed
10. Meeting was adjourned.